

## **Free Information Meetings About Foster Parenting**

August 3rd at 5:30 p.m. at N.M. Children, Youth & Families Department

Carlsbad and Artesia, NM – The public is invited to attend free information meetings to be hosted in Carlsbad and Artesia. The meetings will be held on Thursday, August 3rd, at 5:30 p.m. at local CYFD offices at 901 De Baca in Carlsbad and 2215 W. Main in Artesia. Find out what it takes to become a licensed foster parent with New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Department. Eddy County needs more foster families. Currently, there are 114 children in foster care from Carlsbad and Artesia and only 41 foster families to serve them. We need the community to come together to take care of our children who have often suffered abuse and neglect.

Rusti McConnell, Eddy County Foster Parent says "It is easy to pretend these problems don't exist here. But they do. When you become a part of the solution, when you see a child find safety and peace, there is no better feeling." CYFD staff will be available at the meeting to give information and answer questions about how to become a licensed foster parent.

For more information, please contact Renee Fitts at <u>575-626-9612</u>, or <u>renee.fitts@cyfd.nm.gov</u>. For general foster parenting information 24 hours a day,

seven days a week, please call CYFD toll-free at  $\underline{1\text{-}800\text{-}432\text{-}2075}$  or visit us on the web at:  $\underline{\text{www.cyfd.org}}$ .